



Stay in the Loop

Viral Hepatitis Education & Training

Partners Sharing Progress –Nov 2002

Our Partners

HCET
ASHA
ALF
JSI
NASTAD
HFI
NCCHC
PKIDs
NMAC
IAC
NACCHO.....

Dear Partners:

The Division of Viral Hepatitis, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has funded cooperative agreements with various organizations to test, disseminate, and evaluate viral hepatitis educational messages and to develop training programs for health professionals relative to the prevention and control of viral hepatitis. This letter, to which most partners contributed, will provide an overview of the current status of each partner's efforts.

Health Care Education & Training, Inc. (HCET)

Overview

HCET, Inc. is a private non-profit organization whose mission is to provide quality comprehensive education, training and program development services in the healthcare field. HCET strives to improve health by serving health care systems and communities throughout the mid-western United States. HCET's educational and training events focus on the areas of adolescent pregnancy prevention, HIV, viral hepatitis, STDs, women's health, family planning, infertility prevention and prenatal smoking cessation. Educational services include on-site technical assistance, workshops, conferences, seminars and self-paced learning modules.

HCET Update

Health Care Education and Training, Inc. (HCET) is currently working to integrate viral hepatitis messages into existing HIV and STD curricula for family planning clinics. Seven

Division of viral hepatitis
National centers for infectious diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

workshops were delivered during the past year in Illinois and Ohio. One hundred and ninety-two nurses, nurse practitioners and administrators attended those workshops. In addition, two conference workshops were delivered in Kansas and Missouri. More than 80 family planning personnel (mostly clinicians) attended those conference workshops. All of these trainings are being used to determine what will be the best "fit" for hepatitis education and training in family planning. Target date for completion of the materials and curriculum is June 2003.

HCET is also currently developing a hepatitis web-based learning module that will target family planning providers. Based on data gathered through the HCET needs assessment, the Internet is a viable option for training and will address the needs of clinicians in urban as well as rural areas. The module will include information related to diagnosis, prevention and care of clients with viral hepatitis. HCET will provide links to other agencies that may have resources to strengthen the ability of providers to offer hepatitis services. Each of our other web based learning modules are currently receiving between 250 to 1,700 "hits" a month. We are hoping for the same type of interest and activity with a hepatitis-learning module.

HCET has scheduled site visits in several family planning clinics with the goal of identifying opportunities to introduce hepatitis education, testing and referrals into the current services clients

receive. The information collected will also be incorporated into the web based module and workshop curricula.

Workshops scheduled:

October 3, 2002 Detroit Michigan,
MI Family Planning update
October 24, 2002 St Louis, MO
Family Planning update
March 6, 2003 Indianapolis, IN
Nurse Practitioner conference

HCET contacts

Karen Sherman M.A.

E-mail: ksherman@hcet.org

CDC project officer

Valerie Curry: vcurry@cdc.gov

American Social Health Association (ASHA)

Overview

ASHA, founded in 1914, is a private, non-profit organization and dedicated to stopping all STDs and their harmful consequences to individuals, families, and communities. ASHA produces educational materials on sexual health, operates national hotlines for AIDS, STDs and herpes, advocates for strong public health programs to prevent the spread of STDs, and funds research to find better treatments. ASHA is the only nonprofit organization dedicated solely to social health issues focused on the prevention and elimination of STDs including HIV.

ASHA Update

Throughout Project Year Two, ASHA continued its work surveying a national sample of STD Clinic and Program Area managers to assess the degree to which hepatitis A, B, and C initiatives had been integrated into STD programs and services. Data have been analyzed and two manuscripts are being prepared for submission. ASHA also adapted the (Year One) process of determining core concepts (per viral hepatitis experts) to collect (Year Two) opinions from patients and health care providers. STD clinic patients and general practitioners were interviewed regarding concepts believed to be essential for inclusion in effective viral hepatitis prevention educational materials. Core concepts from the three samples (experts, patients and providers) were analyzed, collapsed and “comprehensive core concepts” established. Using the new comprehensive core concepts, ASHA re-scored educational interventions identified in Project Years One and Two and established recommendations regarding “gold-standard” interventions. A manuscript is in the works and will be submitted for publication in 2003. Finally, ASHA conducted a secondary literature review to assess the continuing education media most preferred by health care professionals.

In Project Year Three, ASHA has been funded to conduct a needs assessment to analyze the feasibility, utility and potential components of a hepatitis resource center.

ASHA contacts

Lisa Gilbert: lisgil@ashastd.org

Kelli Scanlon: kelsca@ashastd.org

CDC project officer

Brigette Finkelstein:

bfinkelstein@cdc.gov

American Liver Foundation (ALF)

Overview

ALF is a voluntary organization dedicated to preventing, treating and curing hepatitis and other liver diseases through research and education. ALF fulfills its mission through its nationwide network of chapters.

ALF Update

The American Liver Foundation's (ALF) *Hepatitis Integration Training Manual* (HIT'M), and companion workbook or self-study guide is complete. Distribution of the first 1000 copies will begin in October 2002.

HIT'M is a comprehensive guide for a trainer or other staff member to teach HIV/AIDS; STD; Harm Reduction and/or drug treatment professionals about integrating hepatitis C information into their work. The manual is designed for use by a variety of people, even those

who have limited knowledge about hepatitis C. The manual contains

- Trainer notes
- Training session outline & presentation tips
- Slide show
- Pre and post tests
- Activity sheets
- Frequently asked questions
- Resources & glossary
- Educational tools and order form.

Throughout the development of this product, ALF had ongoing requests for copies of the material and has a distribution list that will deplete the first supply of 1000 copies by December 2002. A second printing of HIT™ is being planned. A fee for the material will be charged for the second printing. All CDC partners will receive a free copy of the manual. For additional copies please contact the American Liver Foundation at 1 800 GO LIVER (465-4837).

ALF will conduct an evaluation of the *Hepatitis Integration Training Manual* to determine its usefulness and level of implementation in the field. Up to 35 agencies and organizations will be asked to participate in the evaluation program. Agencies and organizations that agree to participate in the evaluation will receive an incentive. If your organization would like to participate in the evaluation please contact Jacquelyn Spencer.

ALF contacts

Jackie Spencer
jspencer@liverfoundation.org

Marie P. Bresnahan
mbresnahan@liverfoundation.org

CDC project officer
Dolly Sinha: dsinha@cdc.gov

JSI Research & Training Institute (JSI)

Overview

JSI is a health care research and consulting organization committed to improving the health of individuals and communities world-wide. Since its inception in 1978, JSI has grown to a staff of more than 400 with expertise in public health, clinical care, research methods, economics, community development, organizational development, data systems, and health care operations.

JSI Update

The Region VIII hepatitis project entitled VIRAL HEPATITIS: An Integrated Approach to the Prevention, Screening and Treatment of Hepatitis (HAV, HBV and HCV) is progressing smoothly, with a target pilot date in the last week of October 2002. To date, the following tasks have been completed.

Six modules comprise the curriculum, tentatively titled as follows:

Module 1: General Overview

Module 2: Testing

Module 3: Medical Mgt

Module 4: Co-infection

Module 5: Education and Counseling

Module 6: Integrating hepatitis services into the family planning setting

Overall curriculum goals/objectives have been identified as follows:

Goals: To increase the healthcare provider's confidence and effectiveness in preventing and controlling viral hepatitis in the general population and to increase the healthcare provider's confidence and effectiveness in employing appropriate medical management practices for the treatment of viral hepatitis among various patient populations.

Objectives: Upon completion of all training modules, the participant will be able to:

1. Describe the natural history of viral hepatitis
2. Describe the risk factors for acquiring viral hepatitis
3. Utilize appropriate serologic and laboratory tests to diagnose and evaluate patients with viral hepatitis
4. Demonstrate appropriate medical management of patients with viral hepatitis.
5. Demonstrate effective risk-reduction counseling and effective

counseling of patients who have been tested for viral hepatitis (regardless of outcome)

6. Discuss complications and treatment considerations when the hepatitis-infected client is also infected with HIV

7. Utilize resources available to providers and patients, including websites, support groups, publications, and consulting physicians.

8. Explain the basic procedure for coding for reimbursement of services pertaining to viral hepatitis.

(Via printed information included in participant guides for all modules)

Content for all modules have been developed by a team that includes three MDs, one RN, and one counselor/educator/trainer.

The following tasks are in progress: Draft slide presentations have been completed for Modules 1 and 4. The presentation for Module 2 is approximately two-thirds complete. Drafts of Modules 3, 5, and 6 are to be completed by the end of September.

A draft instructor guide has been completed for Module 1 and will be revised within the next couple of weeks. Modules 2 and 4 will be input into the instructor guide template by mid-September, based on the revised guide for Module 1. Drafts of Modules 3, 5, and 6 are to

be completed by the end of September.

Participant guides for modules will loosely follow the format of the instructor guides and are to be completed by the end of September.

Job aids and supplemental materials are to be drafted in September and completed by the pilot date.

JSI contacts

Yvonne Hamby
yhamby@jsi.org

Mary McCrimmon
marym@jsi.com

CDC project officer
Brigette Finkelstein
bfinkelstein@cdc.gov

National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)

Overview

Formed in 1992, NASTAD represents the chief state and territorial health department HIV/AIDS program managers from across the country. NASTAD members are responsible for administering both federal and state funded HIV/AIDS prevention, health care, supportive services, and

housing programs. To achieve the goal of promoting a more effective national, state and local response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, NASTAD provides a forum for technical assistance and dissemination of information about effective prevention and continuum of care programs, consults on a regular basis with federal agencies, and works with other national organizations with mutual goals.

NASTAD Update

NASTAD has completed three new modules for its “Viral Hepatitis and HIV/AIDS Integration: A Resource Guide for HIV/AIDS Programs.” The first, “Viral Hepatitis in Correctional settings” provides an overview of a myriad of issues related to integrating viral hepatitis into correctional settings. The second module is designed for HIV prevention community planning groups (CPGs). It provides basic information on viral hepatitis, offers a rationale for addressing viral hepatitis within the community planning process, and highlights two different approaches used by jurisdictions for viral hepatitis planning. The third module profiles seven jurisdictions that have integrated hepatitis C counseling and testing and hepatitis A and B vaccine into existing HIV and/or STD clinics.

Forthcoming information includes modules on hepatitis C surveillance, a primer for HIV/AIDS programs on hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccine, and

an overview of viral hepatitis prevention for injection drug users.

NASTAD is revising their *HIV Prevention Fact Sheet* to shift its emphasis from hepatitis C more broadly to viral hepatitis and to update its contents based on input from CDC and from jurisdictions.

NASTAD contacts

Julie Scofield

jscofield@nastad.org

Laurie Schowalter

lschowalter@nastad.org

Randall S. Pope

popers@mindspring.com

CDC project officer

Richard Moyer: rdm4@cdc.gov

Linda Moyer: lmoyer@cdc.gov

Hepatitis Foundation International (HFI)

Overview

HFI seeks to increase awareness of the worldwide problem of viral hepatitis and to educate the public and healthcare providers about its prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. HFI is an organization focused exclusively on bringing viral hepatitis under control and supporting research; educational programs; and

materials for medical professionals, persons with hepatitis, and the public.

HFI Update

Hepatitis Foundation International has changed its location from Cedar Grove, New Jersey to the D.C. suburb of Silver Spring, Maryland. Their new contact information is 504 Blick Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904, phone 301-622-4200/ 800-891-0707 with the same e-mail address TKT@comcast.net

HFI and Orange County Health Care Agency presented the Hepatitis Summit Viral Hepatitis: An Emerged Epidemic in La Mirada, California on July 18 and 19. Topics included harm reduction strategies, counseling and risk assessment, immunization, the health insurance maze, natural history of hepatitis, substance abuse patients and treatments, liver transplants, laboratory tests and health planning.

HFI also has developed two new videos: Hidden Epidemic and a “train the trainer.” Hidden Epidemic is 30 minutes of interviews with a series of patients with hepatitis C and scientific experts. The 15-minute training video is designed for training other trainers about the most current information about viral hepatitis so they may educate their specific target audience.

Hepatitis Foundation International announced that it is scheduled to launch a web-based Resource Center for

California on viral hepatitis October 30, 2002. The Mission of the California Hepatitis Resource Center is to host a virtual knowledge portal on viral hepatitis, identifying state and national knowledge to share with the community. The site creates an atmosphere that invites the members of the community to participate in its success through sharing of model programs and other information. A Conference Center is also included with leadoff topics on Hepatitis Related Substance Abuse and Liver Transplantation. The site will be launched October 30, 2002 at www.hepatitisrcca.info.

HFI contact

Thelma King Thiel
tkt@hepfi.com

CDC project officer

Dolly Sinha: dsinha@cdc.gov

The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC)

Overview

NCCHC is an organization working to improve the quality of health care provided in jails, prisons, and juvenile confinement facilities.

NCCHC Update

NCCHC has completed a curriculum on hepatitis education for inmates and

correctional officers and is ready for distribution. The curriculum is available for ordering from the NCCHC website at: http://www.ncchc.org/pubs_catalog.html#28.

As part of a new cooperative agreement, NCCHC has been awarded funds to evaluate the effectiveness and usability of the curricula during FY 2003.

NCCHC contact

Scott Chavez: scottc@ncchc.org

CDC project officer

Valerie Curry: vcurry@cdc.gov

Parents of Kids with Infectious Diseases (PKIDs)

Overview

PKIDs was organized to educate the public about infectious diseases, the methods of prevention and transmission, the latest advances in medicine, and the elimination of social stigma borne by the infected; and to assist the families of the children living with hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, or other chronic, viral infectious diseases with emotional, financial and informational support.

PKIDS Update

PKIDs has published their quarterly newsletter that included news about adefovir dipivoxil, a new antiviral drug treatment for adults with chronic

hepatitis B. This drug has not been approved for children, but the manufacturer is beginning pediatric clinical trials. PKIDs and The Boggy Creek Gang Camp are raising money to send any child living with hepatitis B or hepatitis C to The Boggy Creek Camp in Eustis, Florida for a week. This camp specializes in accommodating and educating children with life-threatening illnesses who otherwise cannot afford to attend. PKIDs will be spreading their wings to China in October and establishing a training program there in conjunction with Amity Foundation and Holt International. They will be educating orphanage workers, families, children, physicians and medical school instructors about infectious disease, standard precautions and immunization. PKIDs has translated their Pediatric Hepatitis Report from English into Spanish, Russian and simplified Chinese. It is available online at their website www.pkids.org.

PKIDs contact

Patricia (Trish) Karen Parnell
pkids@pkids.org

CDC project officer

Dolly Sinha: dsinha@cdc.gov

The National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC)

Overview

NMAC, established in 1987, is a national organization dedicated to developing leadership within communities of color to address the challenge of HIV/AIDS. NMAC works to promote sound national HIV/AIDS, health, and social policies that are responsive to the needs of the diverse communities of color impacted by HIV/AIDS, conducts individual, on-site community-based organization management and organizational needs assessments in order to support long-term organizational health of front-line AIDS service organizations, provides in-depth training and conference opportunities to AIDS service organizations across the country, and advocates for the proper and speedy development of urgently needed AIDS treatments.

NMAC Update

NMAC coordinated the United States Conference on AIDS this past September in Anaheim, California. There were several presentations on integrating hepatitis services into HIV programs that included workshops by

the Division of Viral Hepatitis, Schering Plough, and several non-profit organizations.

NMAC is developing drafts of two hepatitis C brochures, the first targeting injection drug users (IDUs) and the second targeting men who have sex with men (MSM). Upon completion, NMAC will test both brochures using focus groups.

NMAC contact

Petrina Hollingsworth:

phollingsworth@nmac.org

Robert Dabney:

Rdabney@nmac.org

CDC project officer

Brigette Finkelstein

bfinkelstein@cdc.gov

Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)

Overview

IAC works to boost immunization rates and prevent disease. IAC provides health professionals with the most up-to-date immunization information by mail and electronically to help them better serve their patients. The Hepatitis B Coalition, a program of IAC, promotes hepatitis B vaccination for all children 0–18 years of age; hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) screening for all pregnant women; testing and vaccination

for high-risk groups; and education and treatment for people who are chronically infected.

IAC publishes *NEEDLE TIPS* and the Hepatitis B Coalition News, *VACCINATE ADULTS!*, *IAC EXPRESS*, “Unprotected People” stories, and hundreds of print materials for patients and health professionals, some in up to 22 languages. All of IAC’s print materials are camera-ready and copyright-free, reviewed by CDC for technical accuracy, and available on IAC’s website <http://www.immunize.org>.

IAC Update

Progress toward the objectives for the final year of the cooperative agreement is as follows:

1. **Create and distribute hepatitis prevention training packets to train staff in traditional and non-traditional health care delivery settings about how to become vaccine service providers with a special focus on hepatitis A, B, and C prevention.**

“Adults Only Vaccination: A Step-by-Step Guide” training packets have been offered to Planned Parenthood clinics, family planning clinics including federal Title X clinics, gay men’s health clinics, OB/GYNs, college health services, Health Care for the Homeless clinics, and other high-risk settings. The Coalition has orders for approximately 2,000

guides. The guide focuses not only on viral hepatitis, but also on all adult immunizations. It is being written to lead the provider step-by-step through the process of becoming a vaccinator, and includes information about ordering, handling, storage, administration, billing, assessing, recording, and much more. The guide is still in the process of being developed and will be completed and distributed by the end of 2002.

2. **Develop and distribute a new 8-page publication for OB/GYNs about immunization.**

IAC developed a 12-page publication containing hepatitis prevention information relevant to the health care of women. The first issue of *Vaccinate Women* was published in January 2002, and 35,000 copies were distributed with the financial assistance of ACOG. The Coalition included a survey card with the first issue and received a response from 400 recipients, 96% of whom were physicians. Seventy-two percent said that the newsletter was “very helpful” to them and another 25% rated it “moderately helpful.” A second issue of *Vaccinate Women* is currently being printed and will be distributed to all OB/GYNs in the United States in late September 2002.

3. **Develop a new website to showcase programs across the US that work to prevent**

hepatitis A, B, or C in people who are at risk for infection.

This website, www.hepprograms.org, was launched on March 30, 2001, with 32 featured programs. It currently highlights 79 programs in 10 categories: programs for men who have sex with men, STD clinics, family planning clinics, drug treatment and needle exchange programs, juvenile corrections, adult corrections, school-based programs for adolescents, homeless programs, programs for Asian Pacific Islander Americans, and programs for other populations at risk. The site also includes a growing number of related journal articles, recommendations, organizations, and resources for providers and clients. Approximately 6,500 people visit the site each month.

4. **Develop a comprehensive adult immunization record card that can be distributed to provide rs nationwide.**

In April 2002, the Coalition printed 250,000 copies of a newly developed adult immunization record card. A limited supply of the cards was first offered free to clinics serving high-risk patients and the entire supply was depleted in a little more than a month. We have printed another 250,000 cards and have made them available to any clinic for a nominal charge. The MI

Department of Community Health ordered 100,000 of the cards, customized with their contact information and other health plans and local health departments have ordered anywhere from 100 to 61,000 cards.

IAC's recent additional activities:

1. Developed new pages for the main IAC website (www.immunize.org) relating to viral hepatitis, including: "Hepatitis B Information," "Hepatitis A Information," "Immunizations for Healthcare workers," "International Adoption" and "Tattooing and Body Piercing Information."
2. Revised the following pieces related to hepatitis B: Hepatitis B Facts: Testing and Vaccination; Labor & Delivery Unit and Nursery Unit Guidelines to Prevent Hepatitis B Virus Transmission; Patient Notification Letter Regarding Hepatitis B Test Results; Directory of Immunization Resources, 2002 Edition; and Hepatitis B Shots Are Recommended for All New Babies in Spanish, Somali, Farsi, Korean, Chinese, Russian, Vietnamese, Laotian, Cambodian, and Hmong.
3. Published Unprotected People Story #49 in IAC Express #332: "Young Doctor Learns He Has Liver Cancer Too Late"

4. United Healthcare Foundation distributed IAC's Summary of Recommendations for Adult Immunization and Screening questionnaire for Adult Immunization to all (95,000) family practice and general practice physicians in the US and IAC's Summary of Rules of Childhood Immunization and Screening Questionnaire for Child and Teen Immunization to all (50,000) pediatricians in the United States.

IAC Contacts

Deborah Wexler:

Wexle001@tc.umn.edu

Teresa Anderson:

evaluation@immunize.org

CDC project officer:

Valerie Curry: vcurry@cdc.gov

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

Overview

NACCHO is a nonprofit membership organization serving all of the nearly 3,000 local public health agencies nationwide—in cities, counties, townships, and districts. NACCHO provides education, information, research, and technical assistance to local health departments and facilitates

partnerships among local, state, and federal agencies in order to promote and strengthen public health.

NAACHO Update

This past grant year we funded 10 local health department sites to hold trainings for HIV/STD counselors, correctional staff, health officials, youth outreach workers etc. Sites have shared materials they've developed with one another, and have also used existing documents and protocols as templates for their own communities (e.g., using the online CDC web training as starting point, using MA Dept of Health pre and post test documents as template). Grantees have also worked with their state hepatitis C coordinators where possible. One site, Nassau County (NY) is first holding a strategic planning session with health officials and health professionals to develop an action plan for their area. Trainings will be developed for health professionals based on the recommendations from these strategic plans. Sites will be turning in final reports to NACCHO by the end of October, which will then be sent to CDC as well.

The grant sites are:

Boston (MA), Columbus (OH)
Gloucester (MA), Grant (WA)
Maricopa (AZ), Nassau (NY)
Richland (MT), Siouxland (IA)
Stanislaus (CA), Tri-County (CO)

NACCHO is also going to be soliciting (from the membership) model practices in viral hepatitis prevention for a new Model Practice Database. (FYI, there will be other topics including other infectious diseases, immunizations, maternal child health, environmental health, bioterrorism, etc). The database will be searchable online from NACCHO's website. Staff is developing the criteria for model practice submissions (and "promising practice" submissions). The database will be a great mechanism to capture all of the hepatitis prevention programs around the country.

In May, the HIV and Other Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee met in Atlanta. The committee met with staff from several CDC personnel, including Brigitte Finkelstein and Joanna Buffington from DVH. Based on committee input, the next round of hepatitis grants will include an impact evaluation to measure impact of the trainings on practices and protocols at the funded health departments.

NACCHO Contact:
Leigh Lipson
llipson@naccho.org

CDC project officer:
Brigitte Finkelstein
bfinkelstein@cdc.gov

Respectfully submitted:
Linda A. Moyer
Chief, Education and
Communications Team
Division of Viral Hepatitis
National Center for
Infectious Diseases
